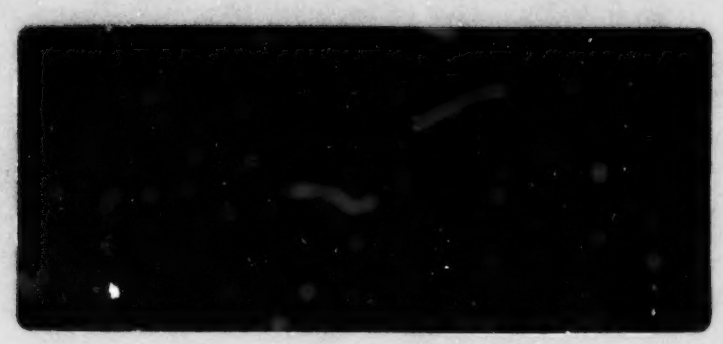

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Manitoba
Health
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TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN MANITOBA:
A Statistical Report

Released: September, 1989

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT	1
FERTILITY	2
- Trend in Fertility Rate	2
- Interprovincial Comparisons	2
THERAPEUTIC ABORTION	2
- Trend in Therapeutic Abortion	2
- Variations in Abortion Rates By Age	3
MARITAL STATUS OF MOTHER	3
PREGNANCY	4
- Total Known Pregnancies	4
- Regional Variation	5
- Pregnancy Rates	5
- Birth Rates	5
- Fertility Rates	5
- Therapeutic Abortion Rates	5
APPENDIX	

TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN MANITOBA

INTRODUCTION

The purposes of this report are to describe the incidence of teenage pregnancy in Manitoba and to serve as a guide for the planning of programs and service delivery to this population. It should be noted that this is primarily a statistical report based on available data.

LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

Complete statistics on teenage pregnancy should include data on live births, stillbirths, therapeutic abortions, ectopic pregnancies, and spontaneous abortions. In this document, only data on live births, stillbirths, and therapeutic abortions occurring in Manitoba hospitals, to Manitoba residents are included. Estimates on the number of spontaneous abortions, ectopic pregnancies and therapeutic abortions occurring outside of Manitoba hospitals are not included as the numbers cannot be confirmed.

The sources of data for this report are Statistics Canada, Manitoba Vital Statistics and Manitoba Health Services Commission (MHSC). The reporting time period for the former two sources is the calendar year. The latter source uses the fiscal year. Differences in reporting years are noted in the tables and figures.

In this report, the incidence of live births, stillbirths and therapeutic abortions are recorded by maternal age. Multiple live births and multiple stillbirths are counted as one incidence of live birth or stillbirth, respectively. A twin pregnancy resulting in a live birth and a stillbirth would be reported in each statistical category for the maternal age.

FERTILITY

Trend in Fertility Rate

Fertility refers to the number of live births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years and does not include therapeutic abortions or stillbirths. Figure 1 provides an overview from 1922 to 1986 of the trend in fertility among Manitoba females aged 15-19 years. For comparison, Canadian rates are also presented.

As is evident from Figure 1, the fertility rates among females aged 15-19 years peaked in the late 1960s for both Canada and Manitoba. For unknown reasons, the Manitoba rate increased in the early 1970s. Since 1974, the rates for Manitoba and Canada have both steadily declined. In 1986, the fertility rate per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years was 37.4 in Manitoba and 23.5 in Canada. Similar data for females aged 10-14 years are not presented since the very low numbers of births to females in this age group leads to wide variation in the rates.

Interprovincial Comparisons

Figure 2 presents a comparison of interprovincial fertility rates for 1986. Saskatchewan has the highest fertility rate among the three prairie provinces, and Manitoba has the second highest rate. Quebec has the lowest teenage fertility rate and Ontario has the second lowest. The prairie provinces, the Yukon and the Maritime provinces all have rates higher than the Canadian rate.

THERAPEUTIC ABORTION

Trend in Therapeutic Abortion

Figure 3 and Table 1 provide an overview of the long-term trend in therapeutic abortion rates for Manitoba and Canada for females aged 15-44 years as reported by Statistics Canada. Data on therapeutic abortions to Canadian females performed outside Canada are not included in the calculation of the rates for Canada or Manitoba. Figure 3 and Table 1 show

an increased rate of therapeutic abortions for Manitoba. The rate appears to be plateauing for Canada. There has been an increasing trend of utilization of therapeutic abortion services in Manitoba across all age groups over the last three years. This rise is likely due in part to the decreased use of abortion services in adjacent states and a concurrent increase in use of Manitoba facilities.

Variations in Abortion Rates by Age

Table 2 shows the therapeutic abortion rates from 1982 to 1987 for females aged 15-44 years by five year age bands from different data sources. For each age band, the data were obtained from Statistics Canada, and Manitoba Health Services Commission (MHSC). Any comparisons between these two data sources should acknowledge their different data reporting years i.e., calendar and fiscal, respectively.

The rate of therapeutic abortions is highest for the age band 20-24 years. It is second highest for females aged 15-19 years. Table 3 indicates that of known pregnancies in the 15-19 year age group, approximately 33% of the pregnancies will end in a therapeutic abortion.

Figure 4 depicts the proportion of known pregnancies for 1987/88 in each age group that resulted in therapeutic abortions. The size of each circle is proportionate to the number of known pregnancies for each age group. The blue area within a circle represents the percentage of therapeutic abortions in that age group.

MARITAL STATUS OF MOTHER

In 1987, 24 per cent of mothers aged 15-19 years reported, at the time of registering the birth with Vital Statistics, that they were married. Table 4 depicts the marital status of teenage mothers in 1986 and 1987 by single age band at the time of registering the birth.

PREGNANCY

Total Known Pregnancies

Tables 5A and 5B present 1982-1987 data on known teenage pregnancies. Manitoba Health Services Commission population data and therapeutic abortion data (1987 only), Manitoba Vital Statistics data and Statistics Canada data are used in these calculations. Small differences in the rates will be seen since Manitoba Vital Statistics does not record births that occur outside Manitoba. It should be noted that the 1987 calculations amalgamate calendar year data (Manitoba Vital Statistics) and fiscal year data (MHSC).

The female population aged 15-19 years declined from 47,432 in 1982 to 42,727 in 1987. The total number of known pregnancies in Manitoba (residents only) for females aged 15-19 years has declined from 2,314 in 1982 to 2,244 in 1987. This represents a decrease in the average number of known teenage pregnancies per week from 45 in 1982 to 44 in 1987 for this age group. However, the pregnancy rates for females aged 15-19 years increased from 48.8 in 1982 to 52.5 in 1987.

The female population aged 10-14 years declined from 42,259 in 1982 to 40,210 in 1987. The total number of known pregnancies for females aged 10-14 years has declined from 59 in 1982 to 48 in 1987. The pregnancy rates for females aged 10-14 years were 1.40 in 1982 to 1.19 in 1987. Again, it should be noted that the 1987 calculations include calendar year data (Manitoba Vital Statistics) and fiscal year data (MHSC).

Complete data on the number of miscarriages (spontaneous abortions) and ectopic pregnancies are not available. The literature, however, estimates that between 10-31% of all pregnancies for all ages would end in spontaneous abortions.

Regional Variation

Figure 5 depicts the regional variation in known teenage pregnancy rates. Tables 6A, 6B and 6C present data on known teenage pregnancy, total birth, fertility and therapeutic abortion rates for the Manitoba Health regions.

Pregnancy Rates

The highest pregnancy rates occur in the regions of Norman and Thompson, with the latter region's rate being approximately two to three times higher than most other regions. Central region had the lowest pregnancy rates for 1985 to 1988 inclusive. Since 1985, Central, Interlake, Westman and Winnipeg regions have had pregnancy rates below the Manitoba rate (Table 6A).

Birth Rates

The highest birth rates occur in the regions of Norman and Thompson. Westman, Winnipeg and Interlake regions had the lowest birth rates for 1985, 1986 and 1987 respectively. Central, Westman and Winnipeg regions have had lower birth rates than the Manitoba rate 1985 to 1987 inclusive (Table 6B).

Fertility Rates

Variations in the regional fertility rates are the same as those found in the birth rates (Table 6B).

Therapeutic Abortion Rates

The highest therapeutic abortion rates occurred in Winnipeg region in 1985/86 and 1986/87, and in Interlake region in 1987/88. Eastman region had the lowest therapeutic abortion rates for 1985/86 to 1987/88. Also, for these years, Central, Eastman, Norman, Thompson and Parkland regions have consistently had lower therapeutic abortion rates than the Manitoba rate (Table 6C).

Within Manitoba, it is therefore evident from Tables 6A, 6B, and 6C and Figure 5 that there is considerable regional variation in the known pregnancy, total birth, fertility and therapeutic abortion rates among teenage females.

FIGURE 1

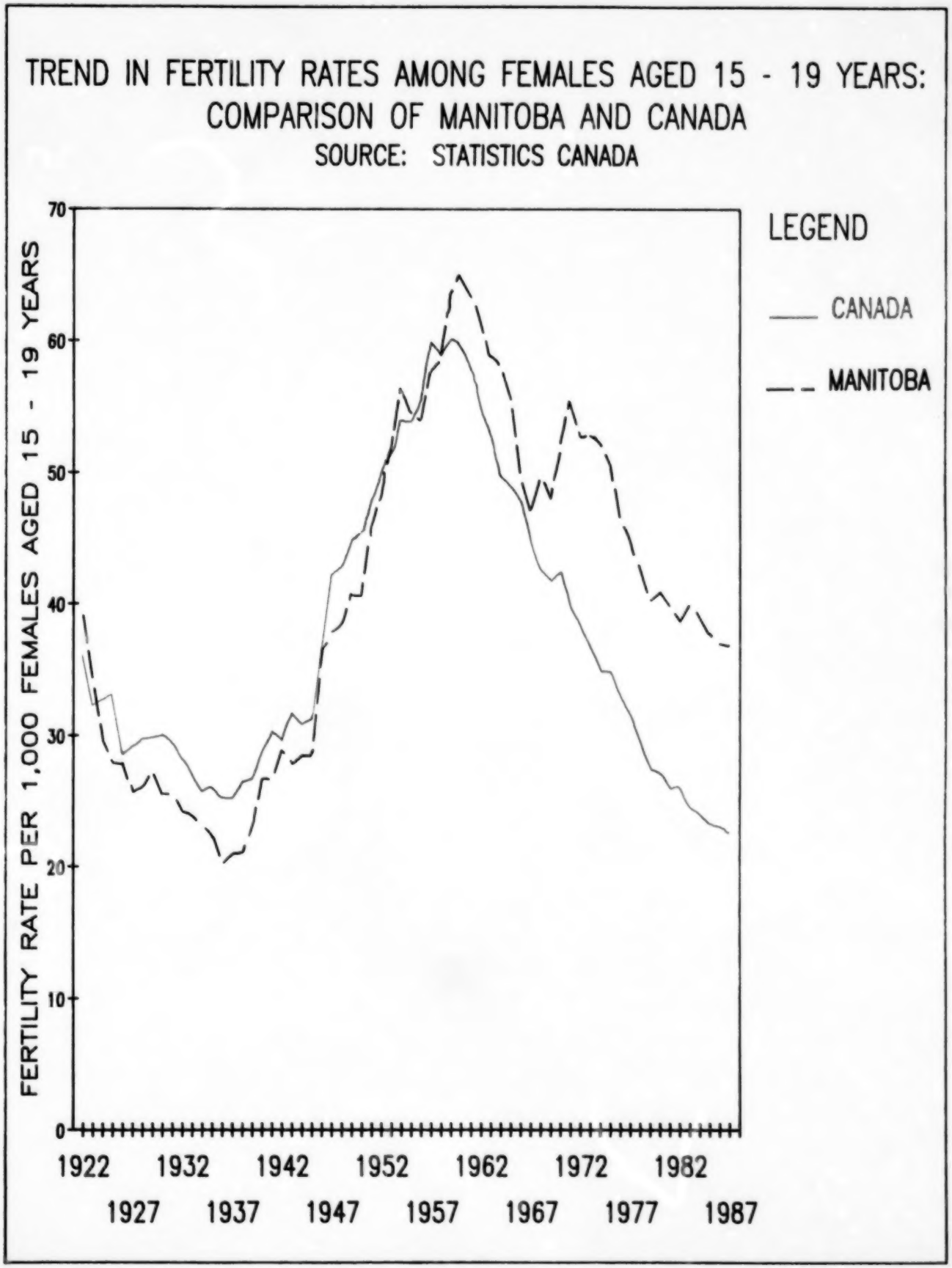
TREND IN FERTILITY RATES AMONG FEMALES AGED 15 - 19 YEARS:
COMPARISON OF MANITOBA AND CANADA
SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
FERTILITY RATE PER 1,000 FEMALES AGED 15 - 19 YEARS
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
1922
1927
1932
1937
1942
1947
1952
1957
1962
1967
1972
1977
1982
1987
LEGEND
CANADA
MANITOBA

FIGURE 2

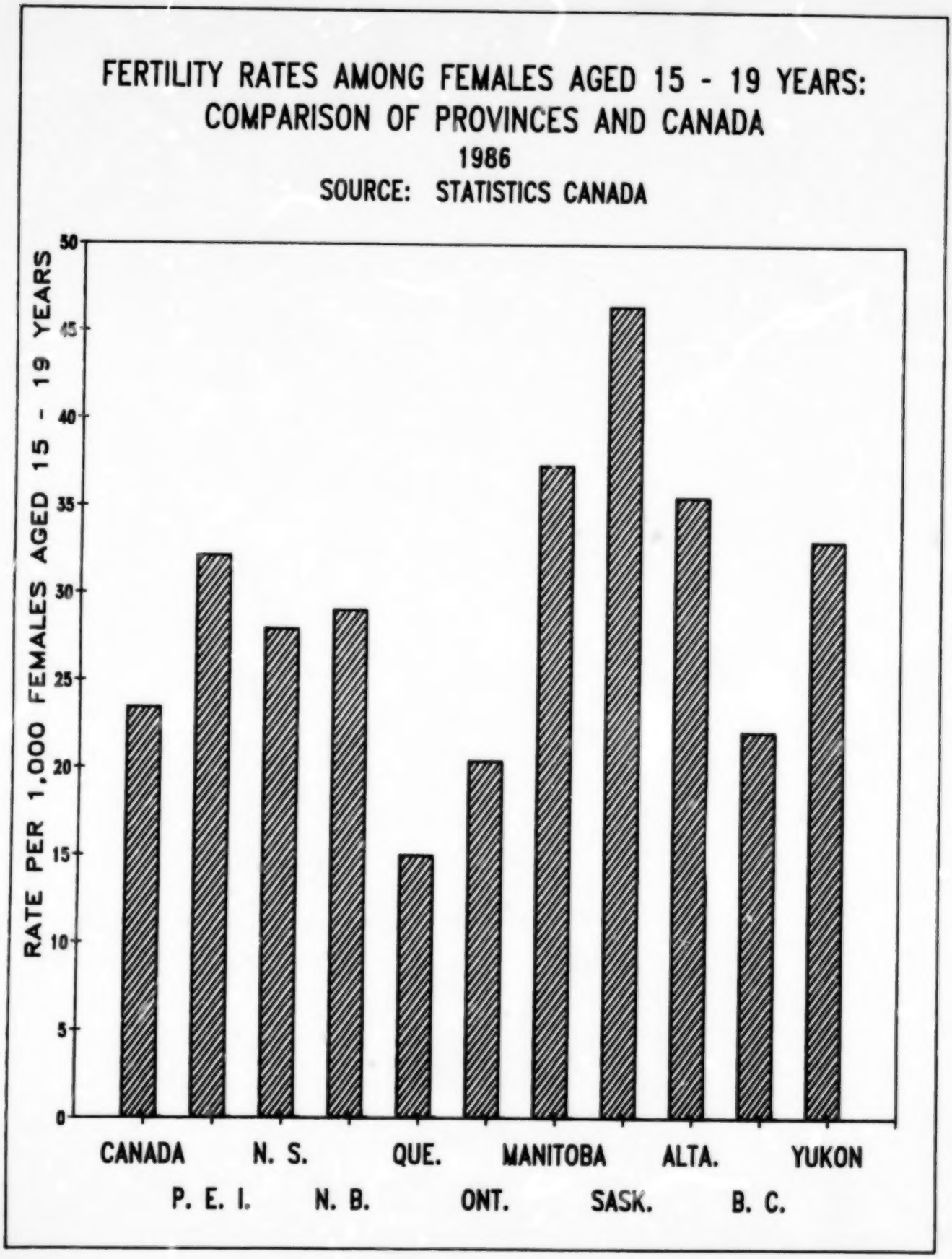
FERTILITY RATES AMONG FEMALES AGED 15 - 19 YEARS:
COMPARISON OF PROVINCES AND CANADA
1986
SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
RATE PER 1,000 FEMALES AGED 15 - 19 YEARS
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45
50
CANADA
P. E. I.
N. S.
N. B.
QUE.
ONT.
MANITOBA
SASK.
ALTA.
B. C.
YUKON

FIGURE 3

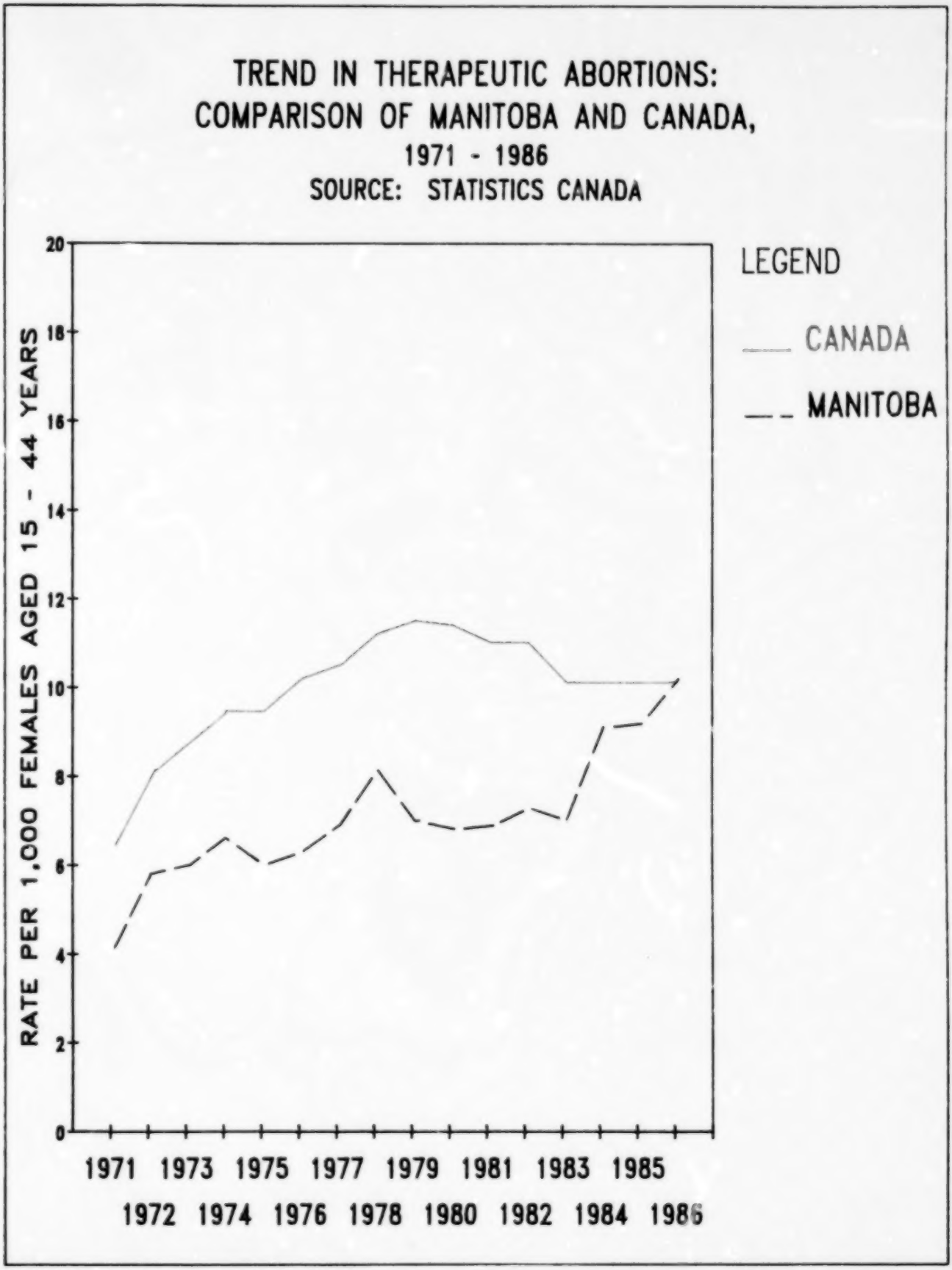
TREND IN THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS:
COMPARISON OF MANITOBA AND CANADA,
1971 - 1986
SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
RATE PER 1,000 FEMALES AGED 15 - 44 YEARS
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
1971 1973 1975 1977 1979 1981 1983 1985
1972 1974 1976 1978 1980 1982 1984 1986
LEGEND
CANADA
MANITOBA

TABLE 1

TREND IN THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS OVER TIME, 1971-1987

Year	Therapeutic Abortion Rate * per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years		Number of Abortions Done in: Manitoba		Done in:(3) N. Dak.	Minn.	Total (4) of (1)+(3)
	Canada	Manitoba	Source: Stats (1) Canada	MHSC (2)			
1971	6.6	4.1	827				
1972	8.2	5.8	1,178				
1973	8.9	6.0	1,259				
1974	9.6	6.6	1,411				
1975	9.6	6.0	1,298				
1976	10.3	6.3	1,393				
1977	10.6	6.9	1,573				
1978	11.3	8.1	1,869				
1979	11.6	7.0	1,624				
1980	11.5	6.8	1,587				
1981	11.1	6.9	1,610				
1982	11.1	7.3	1,728		958		2,686
1983	10.2	7.0	1,689		814	50	2,553
1984	10.2	9.1	2,226	2,216	444	34	2,704
1985	10.2	9.2	2,285	2,302	388	12	2,685
1986	10.2	10.2	2,568	2,540	310	14	2,892
1987				2,714	246	10	

SOURCE: (1) Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortions, Catalogue 82-211, Tables 2, 3, calendar years 1971-1986.

(2) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17, fiscal years 1984/85 - 1987/88.

(3) Data on abortion services provided to Manitoba residents performed in North Dakota 1982-1987 and Minnesota 1983-1987 were obtained from correspondence with these states.

(4) Sum of abortions done in North Dakota, Minnesota and those reported by Statistics Canada (MHSC data is from a different time period and therefore cannot be combined with data provided by North Dakota and Minnesota).

NOTE: * Rates are based on abortions performed in Canadian hospitals and are reported by the woman's province of residence. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of therapeutic abortions by the number of women aged 15-44 years. (Statistics Canada)

TABLE 2

THERAPEUTIC ABORTION RATES* IN MANITOBA BY AGE GROUPS, 1982-1987

YEAR	(1) AGED 15-44 COMBINED	(1) 15-19 (2)		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44	
		SC**	MHSC	SC	MHSC	SC	MHSC	SC	MHSC	SC	MHSC	SC	MHSC
1982	7.3	11.8		13.0		6.4		4.4		2.3		1.1	
1983	7.0	10.9		13.0		6.5		4.0		2.5		1.3	
1984	9.1	14.7	13.9	17.0	14.9	9.0	7.8	6.2	5.5	4.1	3.5	1.6	1.1
1985	9.2	16.1	14.4	16.9	16.4	8.6	8.3	5.3	5.1	3.4	3.0	0.8	0.9
1986	10.2	17.0	14.9	20.5	18.9	9.6	9.4	6.0	5.8	3.2	3.5	1.0	1.1
1987			17.1		18.8		11.7		5.8		3.4		1.2

SOURCE: (1) Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortions, Catalogue 82-211, Tables 3, 6, 15, 16, 30. Population data, Catalogue 92-210.

(2) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17.

NOTE: * Rate is expressed per 1,000 females.
** Rates based on all therapeutic abortions less than 20 years and female population 15-19 years, Catalogue 82-211, Table 6 - 1986.

NOTE: Data from Statistics Canada are reported by calendar year. Data from MHSC are reported by fiscal year. Thus, some discrepancies in rates will be apparent.

TABLE 3

KNOWN PREGNANCIES THAT END IN THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS, 1987/88

Age Group	(1) Number of Known Pregnancies*	(2) Number of Live Births**	(2) Number of Stillbirths**	(3) Number of Therapeutic Abortions
15	48	25	2	21
15 - 19	2,244	1,502	12	730
20 - 24	5,286	4,344	26	916
25 - 29	6,694	6,066	37	591
30 - 34	3,864	3,572	21	271
35 - 39	1,169	1,018	13	138
40 - 44	172	129	3	40
45 - 49	14	8	0	6
Total	19,491	16,664	114	2,713

SOURCE: (1) Manitoba Vital Statistics, 1987 (live births/stillbirths); Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17, 1987/88.
(2) Manitoba Vital Statistics, 1987.
(3) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17, 1987/88.

NOTE: * Sum of calendar year data (live births and stillbirths) and fiscal year data (therapeutic abortions).
** Number of women who delivered a live birth or stillbirth less than 20 weeks gestation.

FIGURE 4

PROPORTION OF KNOWN PREGNANCIES ENDING IN THERAPEUTIC ABORTION BY MATERNAL AGE GROUP

SOURCE: MANITOBA VITAL STATISTICS & MHSC - 1987/88

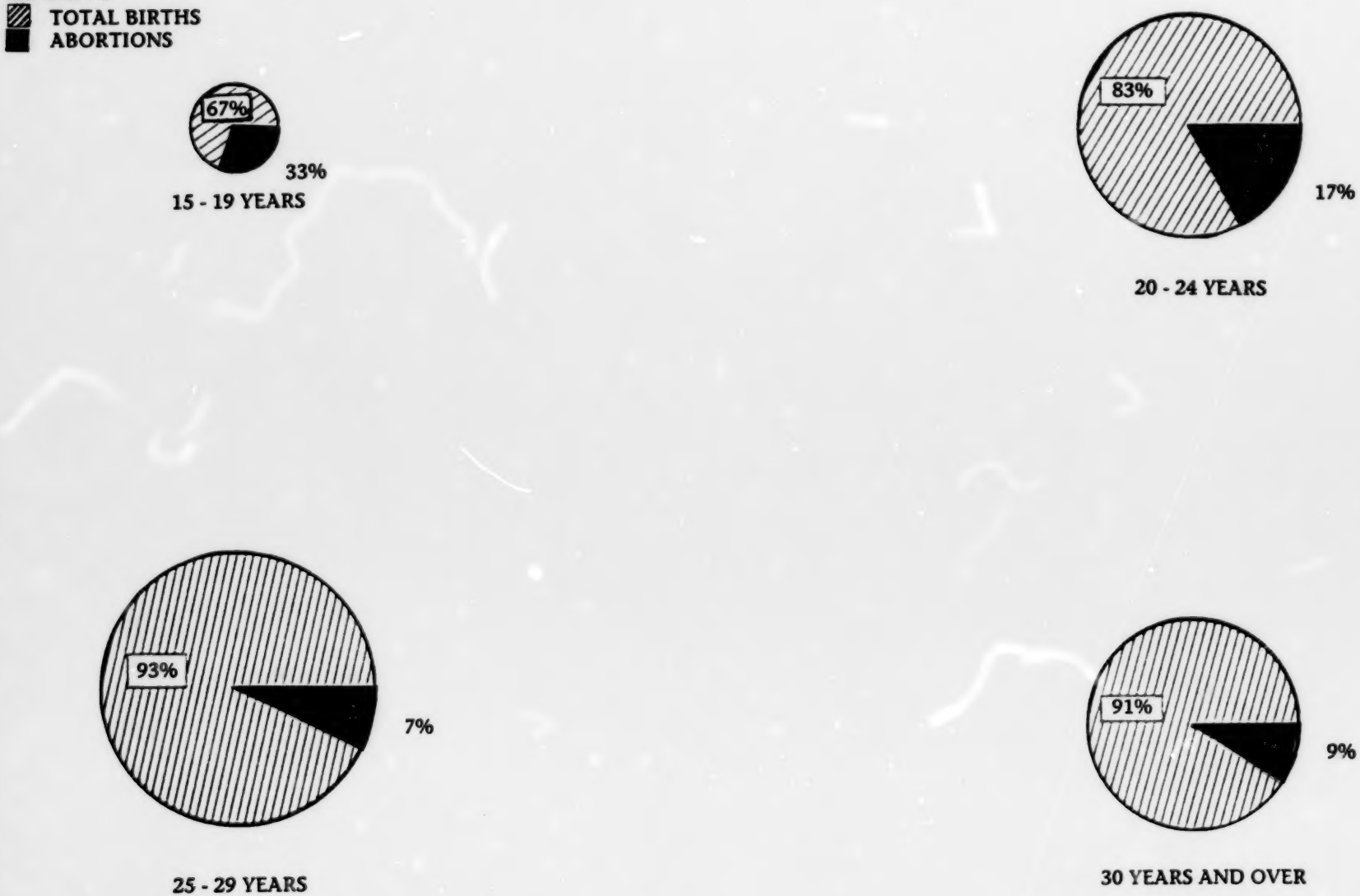

TABLE 4

MARITAL STATUS OF MANITOBA TEENAGE MOTHERS, 1986 - 1987

Age	Married*				Other**			
	Number		%		Number		%	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
13	0	0	0.0	0.0	7	4	100.0	100.0
14	1	0	5.0	0.0	19	18	95.0	100.0
15	1	2	1.2	2.6	80	75	98.8	97.4
16	16	15	8.9	9.6	165	141	91.2	90.4
17	50	40	17.8	13.0	231	268	82.2	87.0
18	107	99	28.5	24.6	268	304	71.5	75.4
19	222	204	39.4	36.6	342	354	60.6	63.4
Sub-total (15-19)	396	360	25.0	24.0	1,186	1,142	75.0	76.0
Total (13-19)	397	360	25.0	23.6	1,212	1,164	75.0	76.4

SOURCE: Manitoba Vital Statistics.

NOTE: * Married as reported by the mother when the birth is registered with Manitoba Vital Statistics.

** Includes females who are single, separated, divorced, living common-law or widowed.

TABLE 5A

TEENAGE PREGNANCIES IN MANITOBA, 1982-1987

	FEMALES AGED 10-14 YEARS						FEMALES AGED 15-19 YEARS					
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
(1) POPULATION	42,259	42,067	41,729	41,383	40,742	40,210	47,432	46,315	44,654	43,486	43,147	42,727
(2) TOTAL BIRTHS	35	19	23	27	26	27	1,794	1,715	1,638	1,545	1,481	1,514
STILLBIRTHS *	1	0	0	0	0	2	19	12	13	18	7	12
LIVE BIRTHS *	34	19	23	27	26	25	1,775	1,703	1,625	1,527	1,474	1,502
(3) ABORTIONS	24	15	25	31	33	21(4)	520	468	596	634	660	730(4)
TOTAL KNOWN PREGNANCIES	59	34	48	58	59	48**	2,314	2,183	2,234	2,179	2,141	2,244**
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PREGNANCIES PER WEEK ***	1.13	.65	.92	1.12	1.13	.92**	44.5	42.0	43.0	41.9	41.2	43.2**

SOURCE: (1) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Population of Manitoba.
(2) Manitoba Vital Statistics, Manitoba residents only.
(3) Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortion Catalogue 82-211, Table 15, 16, 30.
(4) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17, 1987/88 (Statistics Canada data unavailable).

NOTE: * Number of women who delivered a live birth or a stillbirth less than 20 weeks gestation.
** Sum of data from calendar year (total births) and fiscal year (therapeutic abortions).
*** Calculated by dividing the number of known pregnancies by 52 weeks.

TABLE 5B

TEENAGE PREGNANCY RATES IN MANITOBA, 1982-1987

	FEMALES AGED 10-14 YEARS						FEMALES AGED 15-19 YEARS					
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
(1) TOTAL BIRTH RATE *	.83	.45	.55	.65	.64	.67	37.2	37.0	36.7	35.5	34.3	35.4
STILLBIRTH RATIO **	29.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.00	10.7	7.1	8.0	11.8	4.8	8.0
FERTILITY RATE ***	.80	.45	.55	.65	.64	.62	37.4	36.8	36.4	35.1	34.2	35.2
(2) ABORTION RATE ****	.57	.36	.60	.75	.81	.52 (3)	11.0	10.1	13.4	14.6	15.3	17.1(3)
TOTAL KNOWN PREGNANCY RATE *****	1.40	.81	1.15	1.40	1.45	1.19 (4)	48.8	47.1	50.0	50.1	49.6	52.5 (4)

SOURCE: (1) Manitoba Vital Statistics.
(2) Statistics Canada, Therapeutic Abortions, Catalogue 82-211, Table 15.
(3) Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17, 1987/88.
(4) Calculated from calendar year (total births) and fiscal year (therapeutic abortion) data.

NOTE: * Number of women who delivered live births plus number of women who delivered stillbirths less than 20 weeks gestation per 1,000 females.
** Number of women who delivered stillbirths less than 20 weeks gestation per 1,000 females who delivered livebirths.
*** Number of women who delivered live births per 1,000 females.
**** Number of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females.
***** The sum of the number of women who delivered live births, stillbirths and had therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females.

FIGURE 5

REGIONAL VARIATION IN KNOWN TEENAGE PREGNANCY RATES: MANITOBA, 1985 - 1988

SOURCE: MANITOBA VITAL STATISTICS
MANITOBA HEALTH SERVICES COMMISSION

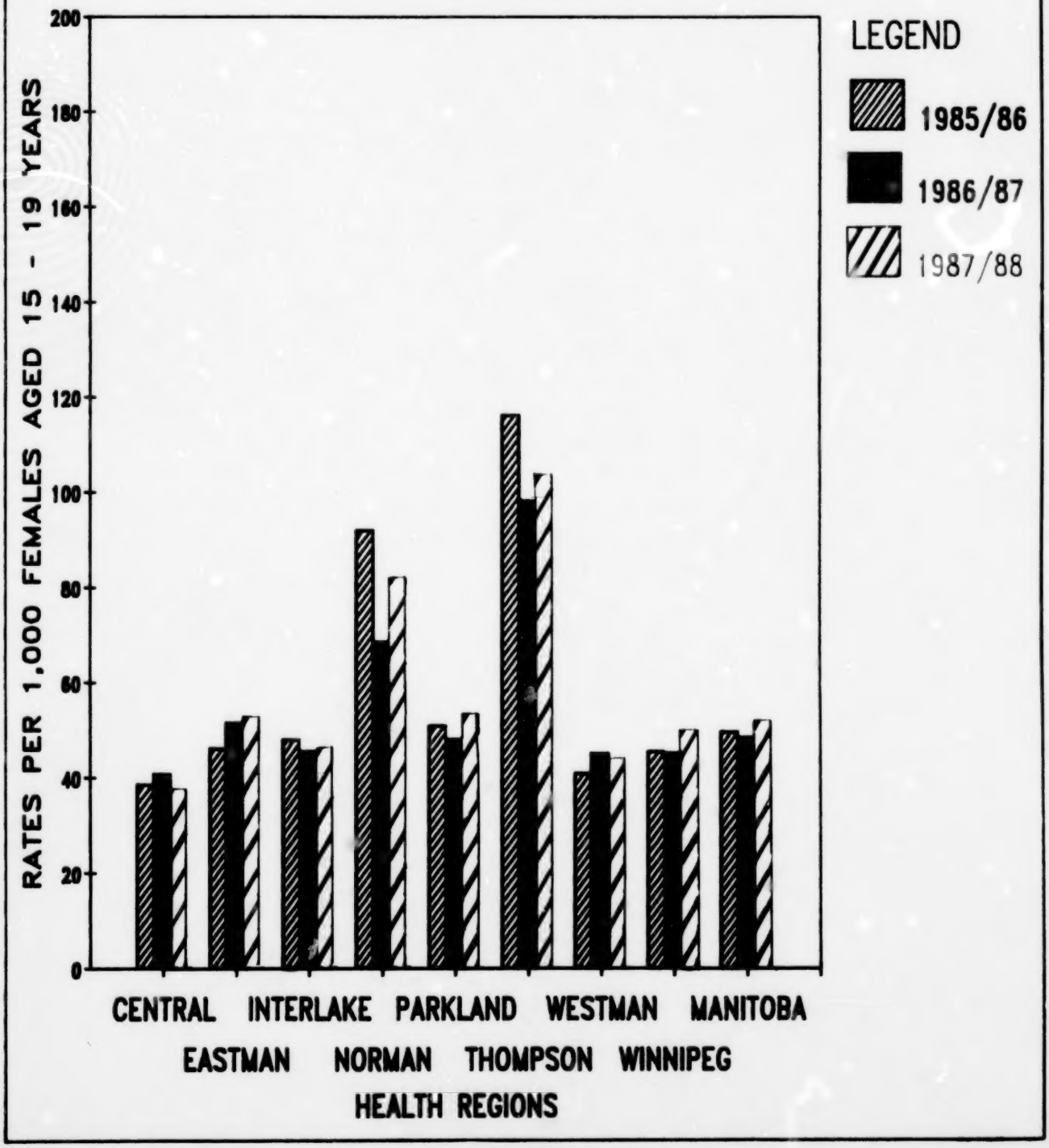

TABLE 6A

REGIONAL PREGNANCY RATES: *

FEMALES AGED 15-19 YEARS, 1985/86 - 1987/88

REGION	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88
CENTRAL	38.9	41.2	38.0
EASTMAN	46.5	52.0	53.2
INTERLAKE	48.3	46.0	46.7
NORMAN	92.3	69.0	82.5
PARKLAND	51.3	48.5	53.9
THOMPSON	116.5	98.6	104.1
WESTMAN	41.3	45.5	44.5
WINNIPEG	45.9	45.6	50.5
MANITOBA	50.0	48.9	52.5

SOURCE: Manitoba Vital Statistics (live births/stillbirths - calendar year); Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17 (fiscal year).

NOTE: * Sum of the number of women who delivered live births, stillbirths less than 20 weeks gestation, or who had therapeutic abortions per 1,000 females.

TABLE 6B

REGIONAL FERTILITY AND TOTAL BIRTH RATES:

FEMALES AGED 15-19 YEARS, 1985-87

	TEENAGE FERTILITY RATE *			TEENAGE TOTAL BIRTH RATE **		
	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987
REGION						
CENTRAL	28.4	31.0	28.6	28.7	31.0	28.9
EASTMAN	40.7	44.4	44.5	41.5	44.6	44.7
INTERLAKE	35.9	32.0	28.2	35.9	32.0	28.2
NORMAN	77.7	59.6	70.3	79.4	59.6	70.3
PARKLAND	43.6	36.0	40.8	43.6	36.5	41.9
THOMPSON	103.4	88.1	89.4	104.3	88.6	90.7
WESTMAN	25.7	31.9	29.8	25.7	31.9	30.3
WINNIPEG	27.7	26.9	28.9	28.2	27.1	29.1
MANITOBA	35.1	34.2	35.2	35.6	34.3	35.4

SOURCE: Manitoba Vital Statistics.

NOTE: * Number of women who delivered live births per 1,000 females.
** Sum of the number of women who delivered live births and number of women who delivered stillbirths less than 20 weeks gestation per 1,000 females.

NOTE: Status Indians allocated by region of band location regardless of geographical residence

TABLE 6C

THERAPEUTIC ABORTION RATES *

BY REGION OF RESIDENCE:

FEMALES AGED 15-19 YEARS, 1985/86 - 1987/88

REGION	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88
CENTRAL	10.6	10.5	9.4
EASTMAN	6.7	7.8	9.0
INTERLAKE	14.4	16.5	22.0
NORMAN	13.1	9.6	12.4
PARKLAND	7.8	12.2	12.3
THOMPSON	12.6	10.4	14.0
WESTMAN	15.8	13.7	14.3
WINNIPEG	17.0	17.8	20.5
MANITOBA	14.4	14.9	17.1

SOURCE: Manitoba Health Services Commission, Table 17.

NOTE: * Number of women who had a therapeutic abortion per 1,000 females.

NOTE: Data reported by fiscal year.
Status Indians allocated to region of residence regardless of band location.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

		Page
Figure 1:	Trend In Fertility Rates Among Females Aged 15-19 Years: Comparison of Manitoba and Canada	7
Figure 2:	Fertility Rates Among Females Aged 15-19 Years: Comparison of Provinces and Canada, 1986	8
Figure 3:	Trend In Therapeutic Abortions: Comparison of Canada and Manitoba, 1971-1986	9
Table 1:	Trend In Therapeutic Abortions Over Time, 1971-1987	10
Table 2:	Therapeutic Abortion Rates in Manitoba by Age Groups, 1982-1987	11
Table 3:	Known Pregnancies that End in Therapeutic Abortions, 1987/1988	12
Figure 4:	Proportion of Known Pregnancies Ending in Therapeutic Abortion by Maternal Age Group, 1987/1988	13
Table 4:	Marital Status of Manitoba Teenage Mothers, 1986-1987	14
Table 5A:	Teenage Pregnancies in Manitoba, 1982-1987	15
Table 5B:	Teenage Pregnancy Rates in Manitoba, 1982-1987	16
Figure 5:	Regional Variation in Known Teenage Pregnancy Rates: Manitoba, 1985-1988	17
Table 6A:	Regional Pregnancy Rates: Females Aged 15-19 Years, 1985/86-1987/88	18
Table 6B:	Regional Fertility and Total Birth Rates: Females Aged 15-19 Years, 1985-1987	19
Table 6C:	Therapeutic Abortion Rates By Region of Residence: Females Aged 15-19 years, 1985/86-1987/88	20